



COUNCILMEMBER CARL DeMAIO

FIFTH DISTRICT

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 24, 2010

TO: Eduardo Luna, City Auditor
Audit Committee Members
Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Councilmember Carl DeMaio *Carl DeMaio*

RE: Performance Audit of Police Department Crime Lab

As you prepare your work plan for FY 2011, we respectfully request that a Performance Audit of the Police Department's Crime Lab is included, and given high priority.

Recent media accounts have raised concern that the Department's DNA testing backlog is potentially having a significant public safety impact. It is imperative that the City quickly evaluate the current performance of this important function to ascertain whether concerns are warranted. In addition, it is our hope that a performance audit will yield lessons learned and suggestions for improvements to this important function.

A performance audit of the Crime Lab should include, but not be limited to:

- Consideration of other methods, best practices, technologies and processes used by other crime labs.
- Evaluating staffing capabilities versus historical, current and projected workloads.
- Evaluating the potential for efficiencies through consolidation with the Sheriff's crime lab.
- Evaluating any potential performance improvements available through alternative staffing methods of the Crime Lab.

Please do not hesitate to contact either of our offices with any questions or suggestions regarding the components of the requested Performance Audit. We appreciate your consideration of our request.

